

*K.* *1079*  
**BATEMAN's Tragedy;**

**O R T H E**

**Perjured BRIDE Justly Rewarded:**

**Being the History of**

**GERMAN's Wife,**

**A N D**

**Young BATEMAN.**



**Printed and Sold in Aldermary Church-  
Yard, Bow Lane, London.**



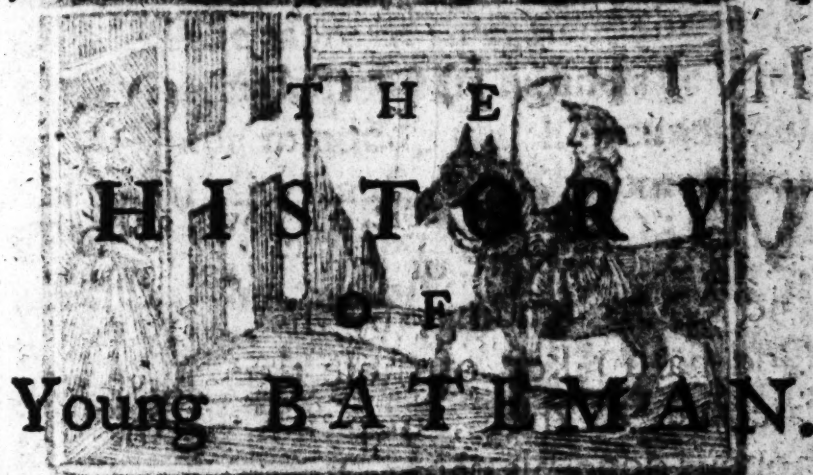
# THE INTRODUCTION.

**W**E find that solemn vows and promises are of very great weight and strictly binding, by the severe notice God hath taken of those that have violated any of them, in punishing the dishonour done his name, by various judgments; and that people may be more careful for the future, not to make any vows and promises they not intend to keep we shall instantly shew you one example of God's anger in this kind, which all England has heard with astonishment; therefore,

Be cautious of the words you speak,  
And let them all be truth;  
Your oaths and promises ne'er break,  
In old age or in youth.

THE

place of the title of the story is  
 The History of the Young Bateman



CHAP. I.  
 Of young Bateman, accidentally espying  
 fair Isabella, a rich Farmer's Daughter;  
 and of his falling in Love with her.

**J**AMES BATEMAN, son of a gentle-  
 man in Nottinghamshire, a Person  
 well educated; but by his father's too  
 great liberality, possessed of no great for-  
 tune, riding one day through Clifton, a  
 few miles from Nottingham, he happened  
 to cast his eyes on a comely maid standing  
 at the door of a fine, seemely house, with  
 those innocent and comely features he



( 3 )  
was on a sudden so taken that he could  
not but make a full stop to gaze at her.



The maid no sooner perceived his eye  
fixed on her, than colouring her cheeks  
with a rosy blush, she modestly retired,  
no less surprised with his personage than  
he was with her beauty. However this  
being the first time they had seen each  
other, he had not the courage to make  
any advances; but passed to a town about  
fifteen miles beyond that, but in a man-  
ner without a heart, for he left that with  
his fair mistress.

All the way he rode, his thoughts  
were strangely confused, so that he la-  
boured to compose them, but in vain.  
He found now, tho' he had formerl



made a Jest of love, and laughed at his companions for declaring their passions; that he was taken in, who had so often perswaded others of their folly; but now he found the more he struggled, the more he was entangled. — The business he went on was not minded, yet he cunningly concealed the cause from them; but finding the contagion had seized his mind more than his body, they concluded it was from the decay of his fortune; and that he might not be dejected, they proffered him their assistance in any thing he would command them. — While these things passed, he was urgent to return home, and did so, enquiring by the way who this fair maid was, and the condition of her parents; found that she was the daughter of a covetous rich old miser, who had refused several very considerable matches, in hopes of advancing her by her beauty, and so saving his numberless bags of treasure.

And upon this account he kept a strict hand over her, to prevent her being stolen away. — This struck him almost dead with the horror of despair, yet something he resolved to do, but what at present he

could not frame in his heart. And so home he went to consider how to manage this love-affair, that at first he might not by an over-rash address dash all his future hopes of happiness to pieces. — In the contriving of which he shall leave him for a time, to consider the condition he left Isabella in.



## CH A P T E R II

Isabella falls sick for Bateman, and is given over; he comes in the Habit of a Physician, and discovers himself to her, by which she recovers, to the great Joy of her Parents.

**T**HIS beauteous maid, who though often courted, had stood proof against the sighs, tears, and entreaties of many young handsome bachelors, found now she stood in need of pity herself. Bateman's ideas were fixed in her mind, that sleeping or waking she fancied him always in her sight. — She made private enquiries, by the description she gave of

could inform her in this respect, some guessing this, and some that. So that love blowing the hidden fire, she grew regardless of the domestick affairs, of which her father had made her overseer; then her appetite failed her, and after this she fell into a sickness, which caused a great heaviness throughout the family. Physicians were sent for to advise with, but their skill proved in vain; for according to the old proverb,

Where Love's in the case,  
The Doctor's an Ass.

So that her father and mother, fearing to lose their daughter, whom they so much deoted on, were at their wits-end shedding many tears.

While they were in this plight, and the sighing maid concealed the inward flame which consumed her heart, one in the habit of a physician, mounted upon a stately horse, came riding up to the gate, and desired to speak with Mr. Gifford, for such was her father's name. — The old man quickly came to him, with a heavy countenance, demanding his business,



ness.—Truly, sir, said he, I come out of  
 compassion to your family; for being at  
 an inn this town, I heard your daughter  
 who is your darling, was sick, whose  
 death would send you to the grave, as  
 divers physicians have used their skill,  
 but all in vain. If you will accept of my  
 advice, and she be willing to take what  
 I shall direct, I doubt not but by the  
 blessing of God upon my many years  
 study in physick, and travels in diverse  
 countreies, so to order all things as to re-  
 cover her health to its former vigour and  
 spriteliness.

The old man, upon this unexpected  
 visit of a stranger, concluded it some angel  
 sent to him by providence, he could hard-  
 ly refrain from falling on the knee; but  
 after some recovery from this transport,  
 he invited him in, in a loving manner, and  
 as this new doctor had ordered, they all  
 left the room.—The love-sick maid no  
 sooner fixed her eyes on him, but she  
 knew him, and quite fainted away. But  
 he revived her with cordials that he had  
 brought. So that recovering her senses,  
 her blushes overcame her paleness, and  
 strangely altered her whole countenance.

To be brief, he having before guessed,  
and now being assured of the cause of her



distemper, told her the end of his coming  
in that disguise, desiring her to chear up,  
and pouring out his love expressions, mix-  
ed with tears, to see her in such a low  
condition, that at last they understood  
each others minds so well, that he having  
visited her four or five times, and ordered  
her things necessary to restore decayed  
nature, her health returned to admira-  
tion; and at this her father was so over-  
joyed, that he offered him a handful of  
gold, which he refused, and so they par-  
ted, to the mutual satisfaction of all par-  
ties, especially the young couple.



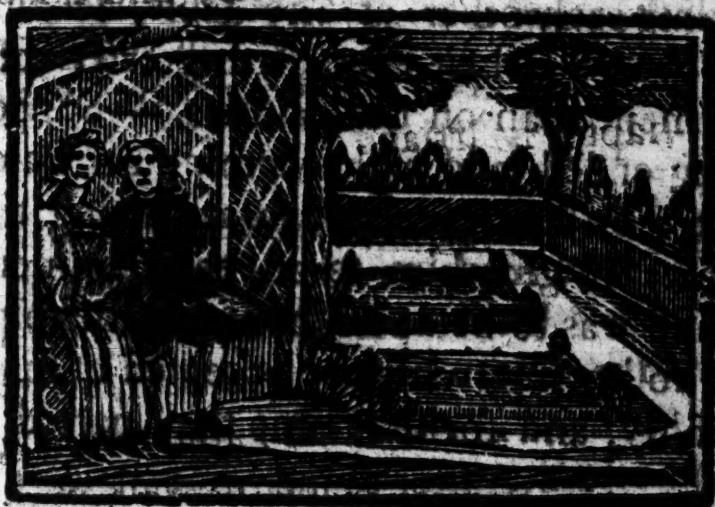
## C H A P. III

He being invited to her Father's House, walks abroad with her, and discovers his Passion; of his Encouragement, and the great Prospect there was of a happy Marriage.

**Y**OUNG Bateman having thus, as he imagined, made a thorough step towards his happiness, went home filled with joy, but delayed not long to revisit his patient in the same habit; taking an opportunity after dinner to walk with her in the garden, and after two or three turns sitting in a shady bower, they began to talk of love, devouring each other as it were with their eyes, with all the modesty love could desire; and after some time thus spent, he spoke in the following manner:—Ah! lovely Isabella, how blessed am I to get an opportunity to tell you how much I love you. You are the only jewel in the world I prize, and could I but possess you, I should think myself the happiest of all mankind.



At this, turning her eyes, she said, that since he had preserved her life, she could do less than recompence him in some manner; for though divers courted her, she was engaged to none.



On this encouragement he pressed her farther, and vowed eternal love, and she by her glances gave consent, but told him as it was the first time of his address, he must grant her room to consult her parents, and if he could gain their consent, he might be assured of hers.

This so overjoyed Bateman, as he immediately would have gone to her parents, and asked that Jewel from them, whose precious life they could not but conclude he next to heaven had pre-

loved and continued to them. But she  
 opposed it, saying, She would prepare the  
 way herself. So rising from the seats,  
 they went into the house, where a grand  
 dinner was provided, and they set over  
 against each other at the table, feeding  
 on love with their eyes, with greater con-  
 tentment than on the dainties. — Supper  
 being ended, and night coming on Bate-  
 man took his leave, when at parting the  
 farmer invited him to an entertainment  
 which was to be at his house on the third  
 day following, which he accepted of most  
 humbly, and for that time they parted.





CHAP. VI.

He comes in his proper Dress, and asks her Father's Consent; but is refused for want of an Estate; and of his wounding one German his Rival.

I SHALL not trouble you with the impatience of the young lovers during the interval, but tell you this feast was made principally to entertain a gentleman whose grandfather dying, had left him a vast great estate, and his affections was very strongly fixed on this virgin; but she did not regard his addresses. However, her parents being pleased with the thoughts of a rich match for their daughter, listened to it, and by persuasions and beseechings desired to be excused, professing her like to a single life, and entreating her they would not compel her to any thing against her will.

CHAP. VI.

The



The day being come, the guests met, and young Bateman resolved to push on his suit in a proper garb. — The entertainment was very splendid, the sea, earth and air contributing their stores to furnish the table with all manner of dainties, nor was any mack wanting; but what dashed all their merriment was, the fair Isabella sat opposite Bateman.

The other lover, whose name was German, understanding the language of their eyes, by their frequent gazings, the coming and going blushes of his mistress's face, his fancy hit upon the truth, viz. They were most deeply in love with each other. — So that his countenance changed and throwing by what was before him, very abruptly retired from the table, ordering his servants to get ready the horses, that he might be gone.

Her parents were start'ed at this, and not knowing what could be the occasion of so sudden an alteration in a person who had professed such love to their daughter, followed him into a private room, to be informed of the reason of his discontent, and soon found the occasion of it; whereupon calling his daughter aside, he

told her what German had suggested, — To which she modestly replied, Seeing the gentleman had saved her life, when others had failed, she thought she could do no less in requital than to give him her love, and was resolved if ever she married to be his wife. — This startled the old man more and more; and Bateman mistrusting what had happened, came in in the interim; and being demanded by her father, if he made love to his daughter, boldly owned it; desiring his consent to have her in marriage.

How! said the old man, You that are a stranger, make love to my daughter, and without my knowledge? — You may be a beggar for ought I know. I intend to give her a good fortune, and therefore I pray what estate have you?

Truly, said Bateman I am rich in love to her, but cannot boast of a vast estate: I was born a gentleman, but without any fortune; for my parents were unfortunate and died poor; yet I hope providence will make me happy, that by your consent I may marry this fair creature your daughter.

Upon this he was going to take her by the hand, and seal his love with a kiss ; but her old dad stepped in an angry manner, crying, Pho, pho, pray stand off.—A gentleman without an estate, is like a pudding without fat. You have indeed done my daughter a kindness in recovering her health, but I'll never consent she shall be your wife.

This enraged Bateman, who upbraided the old man.—Mean time in rushes Gen-



man with his drawn sword, and made a pass at him, but he put it aside, and wounded him in the breast, so that he fell as if dead to the ground. Hereupon Bateman made his escape, to consider what was best to be done.



He is banished her Father's House, & he sends her a Letter, and the next morn-  
 ing in disguise in a neighbouring Grove,  
 where they seal their Vows and Loves,  
 by breaking a Piece of Gold.

**F**AIR, Isabella, upon this account  
 being left in tears, as well as the  
 rest of the family in fear and confusion,  
 surgeons were sent for, who on searching  
 the wound, gave hopes of their Patient's  
 recovery; yet Bateman fearing the worst,  
 absconded from his dwelling, and got a  
 travelling pedlar for a great reward, to  
 deliver a letter unto his Love, which he  
 did, under colour of coming to her Father's  
 house, and professing his wares. — Which  
 was to entreat her, if she had any pity for  
 the sufferings of an unfortunate man, not  
 only to forgive what he had done in his  
 own defence, but meet him in a neigh-  
 bouring grove.

She no sooner read it, but resolv'd to  
 answer his desires, so escap'd in disguise.

of a Milk-Maid. — When they met, it is  
in vain to describe the raptures which  
passed. — She gave him an account of all  
that happened, and how German was  
likely to recover. — But they dwelt not  
long upon this theme, before they began  
to discourse of old love, renewing their  
vows of eternal constancy, so that no-  
thing but death should be able to divide



them : And to bind it he broke a piece  
of gold, giving her one half, and reserv-  
ing the other himself, and then with tears  
and kisses they parted. — She at the fare-  
wel, which proved a sad one, begged him  
to travel a few weeks, and give her no-  
tice where he was, and she would inform

him of the recovery, or danger of his  
 rival: To which he agreed with much  
 cheerfulness.



## CHAP. VI.

Upon her Return she is discovered, and  
 confined to her Room; German courts  
 her with Tears, Presents, and a Proffer  
 of a large Estate: at last, by the De-  
 sire of her Parents. she consents, re-  
 nounces her Vows, sends back the Piece  
 of Gold, and marries German; upon  
 which poor Bateman hangs himself.

**T**H E beautiful Virgin, during her  
 absence, having been missed, and  
 much enquired after, by reason of the  
 unreasonableness of the time, was sus-  
 pected of what had happened, and though  
 she modestly denied it, she was confined  
 to her room, and an old nurse set over to  
 guard her; so that all Bateman's letters  
 were seized, and she could not answer  
 them. — In the mean time German was  
 recovered, and admitted to court her.

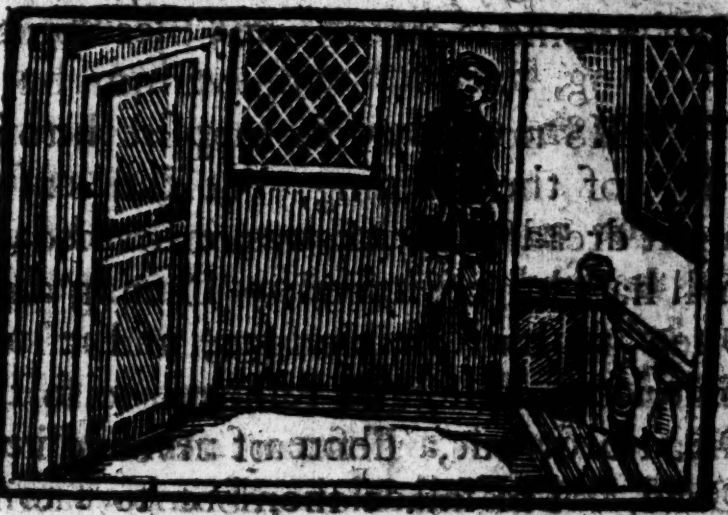


whose addresses she for a long time refused, but at last, — O the inconstancy of Woman! notwithstanding her vows to be Bateman's alive or dead, and many protestations, the miser's gold, and the persuasions and threats of her parents, together with many rich presents, prevailed on her to change her mind, and by their instigation she wrote a letter to Bateman, who was then hunting many miles off. — When upon reading it, his sport was dashed, and a kind of chill struck to his heart. However, although her hand, he flattered himself in believing it was to punish him for his long absence, or was compelled to do it. However, fearing the worst, he hastened the next morning to Oxford, and hearing the bells ring, his heart gave him, but he had not the courage to enquire into the cause.

That morning he was informed she was married to his rival. — Then in a rage he began to curse his stars, and all women kind. Often he resolved to fall on his sword, but a desire of revenge interposed, not to fall alone, but to sacrifice the bridegroom, and then himself.

After some milder resolutions came into his mind, that in this he should give great cause of grief to his Mistress. Yet to let her know his resentment, he sent back the half piece of gold in a letter, which found her at dinner, and made her to be taken sick from the table. However, he was comforted with cordials, and the joy of a bridal night, riding in a coach, and a great estate, passed it over, and so to bed they went.

Bateman receiving no answer, took it as a farther slight, and so entering upon a very desperate resolution, he stole into



the house privately, as being acquainted with the way, and hiding himself in a

closet by the bridal chamber, he hanged himself before the door, where he was found to their great horror and amazement, on opening the door next morning, with the following lines pinned on his breast:

False woman! of thy Vows and Oath<sup>s</sup>  
have dread

For thou art mine by them Alive or Dead



C H A P. VII.

On Bateman's hanging himself she grows melancholy; and after being delivered of a Child is carried away by a Spirit.

**T**HIS not only discomposed the mirth of the wedding, but the ensuing night dreadful shrieks were heard, as if hell had broke loose, by blazing lights often flashing in the face of the new-married couple, and followed with these dreadful words, Thou art mine Alive, or Dead.—This made them remove to the husband's house, which was at some miles distance. But the very same haunt-



ing pursued them, and wherever she went she thought the spirit of Bateman appeared to her. — The curtain was often drawn violently when they were in the bed, and the former cry continued; until at last, she proving with-child, the spirit came in a more furious manner, bidding her prepare to go with him as soon as she was delivered. — At which time being weary of her life, stretching out her arms she cried, I am thine by right, and am ready to go along with thee.

No, replied he, the innocent babe in thy womb protects thee; so I cannot have thee till thou art delivered.

Thus she continued in sorrow and in fear, having many Divines to pray with her, but it availed not. For the time of her delivery being come, which she desired might be prolonged, though in pain, her mother and divers other women watched with her, whom she earnestly desired to pray, and not by any means to fall asleep. — However, a sudden drowsiness about midnight, in spite of all they could do, overcome them, till waked by a very dreadful cry, they found all the

candles out, and feeling for the child-bed woman, she was missing, the casement being burst in pieces, and a strong smell of sulphur left in the room. The townspeople affirmed they heard great cries and shrieks, which filled the air, accompanied with a great clap of thunder, and violent flashes of lightening about that time. — However she was never after heard of, though much sought for.

# FINIS.

